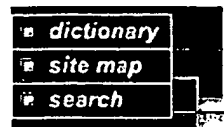




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## Cancer.gov Dictionary

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### T

#### T cell

One type of white blood cell that attacks virus-infected cells, foreign cells, and cancer cells. T cells also produce a number of substances that regulate the immune response.

#### T-3

A thyroid hormone. Also called triiodothyronine or liothyronine sodium.

#### T-cell depletion

Treatment to destroy T cells, which play an important role in the immune response. Elimination of T cells from a bone marrow graft from a donor may reduce the chance of an immune reaction against the recipient's tissues.

#### T-cell lymphoma (lim-FO-ma)

A disease in which certain cells of the lymph system (called T lymphocytes) become cancerous.

#### T138067

An anticancer drug that belongs to the family of drugs called mitotic inhibitors. It inhibits the growth of cancer cells by preventing cell division.

#### T4N5 liposomal lotion

Enzyme lotion used in treating xeroderma pigmentosum.

#### T900607

A substance that is being studied as a treatment for cancer. It belongs to the family of drugs called tubulin-binding agents.

#### tacrolimus

A drug used to help reduce the risk of rejection by the body of organ and bone marrow transplants.

#### TAG-72 antigen

A protein/sugar complex found on the surface of many cancer cells, including breast, colon, and pancreatic cells.

#### tamoxifen (ta-MOK-si-FEN)

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An abnormal mass of tissue that results from excessive cell division. Tumors perform no useful body function. They may be benign (not cancerous) or malignant (cancerous).

**tumor antigen vaccine**

A vaccine made of tumor antigens (proteins isolated from tumor cells).

**tumor burden**

Refers to the number of cancer cells, the size of a tumor, or the amount of cancer in the body. Also called tumor load.

**tumor debulking**

Surgically removing as much of the tumor as possible.

**tumor infiltrating lymphocyte**

A white blood cell that has left the bloodstream and migrated into a tumor.

**tumor load**

Refers to the number of cancer cells, the size of a tumor, or the amount of cancer in the body. Also called tumor burden.

**tumor marker**

A substance sometimes found in the blood, other body fluids, or tissues. A high level of tumor marker may mean that a certain type of cancer is in the body. Examples of tumor markers include CA 125 (ovarian cancer), CA 15-3 (breast cancer), CEA (ovarian, lung, breast, pancreas, and gastrointestinal tract cancers), and PSA (prostate cancer). Also called biomarker.

**tumor model**

A type of animal model which can be used to study the development and progression of diseases and to test new treatments before they are given to humans. Animals with transplanted human cancers or other tissues are called xenograft models.

**tumor necrosis factor (TOO-mer ne-KRO-sis)**

A type of biological response modifier (a substance that can improve the body's natural response to disease). Three types of tumor necrosis factor have been identified: alpha, beta, and gamma. Tumor necrosis factor seems to play a role in the breakdown of cancer cells.

**tumor suppressor gene (TOO-mer)**

Genes in the body that can suppress or block the development of cancer.

**tumor-derived**

Taken from an individual's own tumor tissue; may be used in the development of a vaccine that enhances the body's ability to build an immune response to the tumor.